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from 7,427,253 pounds in 1906 to 13,998,496 pounds in 1907; that of New Mexico from 7,099,842 pounds in 1906 to 10,140,140 pounds in 1907, and that of Idaho from 8,578,046 pounds in 1906 to 9,707,299 pounds in 1907. Nevada and Vermont also showed productive gains.

A NOTE in the London *Times* says that the fine herd of Indian cattle presented to the London Zoological Society by the president, the Duke of Bedford, has been a considerable attraction, and now that two of the cows—of the Mysore and Hissar breeds—have produced calves, the interest of visitors in these animals has increased. In the same house is a black calf of the Chartley  $\times$  Vaynol blood, two abnormally colored calves having been thrown in succession by the same cow. A serow born in the garden proved to be an example of the Sumatran species (*Capricornis sumatrensis*), but, unfortunately, it lived only a few days in the menagerie. The other, which has been in the collection for more than two years, is in excellent condition; so far as can be ascertained, it is the first to reach England. For some little time the waders' aviary has been under repair; the birds have been removed to the covered-in paddocks in front of the anthropoid house, but will probably be brought back in the course of a few days. The curassow chicks hatched out in the northern pheasantry are doing very well, and now mount up on the high perches. The practise of feeding the young was continued by the mother for more than a fortnight. In the aviaries in the new bird house is the finest collection of birds of paradise ever brought together. The last importation was effected by the society in conjunction with Sir William Ingram, by whom Mr. Horsbrugh was sent out to New Guinea. News has been received that the collector now working there for Sir William Ingram has obtained a great prize—a fine male of Prince Rudolph's bird of paradise (*Paradisornis rudolphi*), first obtained by Hunstein and described by Finsch and Meyer in 1885. In this species the side-plumes, of which there are two on each side, are blue, which is the dominant note of the plumage. The type-specimen is in the Dres-

den Museum, and when Dr. Bowdler Sharpe wrote his monograph on the birds of paradise there was no skin of a male in the national collection in Cromwell-road.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE annual report of the treasurer of Yale University for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908, shows additions to the funds during the year of \$1,263,444. The principal items are \$63,149 from the Yale Alumni fund; from the Archibald Henry Blount bequest, \$337,291; from the Lura Currier bequest, \$100,000; by bequest of D. Willis James, \$95,250; from contributions to the university endowment and extension fund, \$335,665; and from balance of the Ross library fund, \$112,220. From the Blount bequest \$242,903 has been used to repay advances made by alumni to secure the Hillhouse property. Gifts to income amounted to \$76,494, of which \$30,000 came from the Alumni Fund Association. The following table is given showing the cost and receipts per student in the different departments:

Department	Students in Attendance	Average Cost per Student	Average Receipts per Student	Percentage of Receipts to Expenses
Graduate .....	357	\$159.45	\$ 40.17	25.2
Academical .....	1,315	339.56	152.27	44.8
Sheffield Scientific .....	948	279.66	160.25	57.3
Theological .....	80	641.03	.....	...
Law .....	339	177.14	122.86	69.3
Medical .....	137	396.90	130.22	32.9
Art .....	39	315.02	69.25	21.9
Music .....	83	268.99	140.12	52.1
Forestry .....	61	469.39	119.17	25.3
All departments..	3,359	\$296.85	\$133.25	44.9

GOVERNOR G. W. DONOGHY, of Arkansas, President John Tillman, of the State University, and George B. Cook, state superintendent of education, have been visiting representative institutions of higher education in the middle west to gather information with a view to recommending an appropriation of \$500,000 for the extension and improvement of the State University of Arkansas.

THE zoology department of the University of Kansas has received a large consignment of marine biological specimens collected during

the summer on the gulf coast in Texas under direction of Professor C. E. McClung. This material will be used in the biological classes of the university and will also be furnished at cost to zoology classes in the accredited high schools of the state.

THE registration at the close of the first week at the University of Wisconsin shows an increase of 331 students over the number enrolled at the same time last year. This gain indicates that the total number of students at the university this year will be over 4,500.

THE new building of the engineering laboratory of the Heriot-Watt College, Edinburgh, was opened by the Earl of Rosebery on September 16.

THE Russian minister of public instruction has forbidden women to attend university lectures in the future, but permits those to complete their studies at universities who have already received permission, and whose transfer to higher educational institutions for women is impossible.

AT Wesleyan University (not Northwestern University, as previously stated) David R. Whitney, of Columbia University, has been appointed instructor in biology, and J. W. Turrentine, M.Sc. (North Carolina), Ph.D. (Cornell), instructor in physical chemistry.

DR. HARRY T. MARSHALL has returned from Manila and has assumed charge of the work in pathology and bacteriology at the University of Virginia. He is assisted by Dr. Carl Meloy, who returns to the university this year as adjunct professor of pathology.

THE following appointments have been announced in the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University: Arthur Lyman Dean, Ph.D., to be instructor in industrial chemistry; J. F. McClelland, M.E., to be lecturer on mining engineering, and William Harry Kirkham to be instructor in biology. In the Medical School Dr. Marvin Scarborough, M.A., has been appointed instructor in pharmacology.

AT the College of the City of New York the following have been promoted from the grade of tutor to that of instructor: In chemistry, Robert W. Curtis, Ph.D. (Yale);

William L. Prager, Ph.D. (Clark); Reston Stevenson, Ph.D. (Columbia); in descriptive geometry and drawing, William Chadwick and Frederick W. Hutchison; in education, Samuel B. Heckman, Ph.D. (Pennsylvania); in philosophy, Howard D. Marsh, Ph.D. (Columbia); in physics, David H. Ray, Sc.D. (New York University). Dr. W. L. Estabrooke has been appointed a tutor in the department of chemistry.

AT George Washington University Mr. Sidney I. Kornhauser has been appointed instructor in biology and Dr. Irving K. Phelps, instructor in physiology.

MR. JAMES P. BARRETT has resigned an assistantship in botany at Illinois Agricultural Station to accept a fellowship in botany at Cornell University.

THE board of governors of the University of Toronto in July last established, at the urgent request of Professor A. B. Macallum, the head of the department of physiology and physiological chemistry, a second professorship in the department and on September 24 the board appointed Professor T. G. Brodie, M.D., F.R.S., of the Royal Veterinary College, London, to the position as titular professor of physiology. Professor Brodie has accepted the appointment and will assume his duties at Toronto in November.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### AN UNUSUAL METEORIC FALL

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: There was an unusual and somewhat remarkable fall of meteoric masses in this vicinity on the evening of Thursday, September 17, some of the facts concerning which may be worthy of record in SCIENCE. I was an eye-witness of some of the phenomena, as will appear. The general account is gleaned from the newspapers of the following day. On the date mentioned, at about quarter past seven o'clock in the evening, a large and brilliant meteor passed over the whole state of Massachusetts from west to east. According to reports, a large fragment of it dropped into Boston harbor between Apple Island (a small island) and the shore of the town of Winthrop, which